

PUBLIC HEARING

June 25, 2012

A **Public Hearing** was held on Monday, **June 25, 2012**, at 6:37 p.m., in the Assembly Room, Berkeley County Administration Building, 1003 Highway 52, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, to solicit public comment, written or oral, on **Bill No. 12-04** regarding zoning reclassifications, **Bill Nos. 12-08 through 12-13** regarding budgets, and **Bill No. 12-14** for supplemental appropriations.

Present: Mr. Daniel W. Davis, Supervisor, Chairman; Mr. Steve C. Davis, Council Member District No. 8, Vice Chairman; Mr. Phillip Farley, Council Member District No. 1; Mr. Timothy J. Callanan, Council Member District No. 2; Mr. Robert O. Call, Jr., Council Member District No. 3; Mrs. Cathy S. Davis, Council Member District No. 4; Mr. Dennis L. Fish, Council Member District No. 5; Mr. Jack H. Schurlknight, Council Member District No. 6; Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., Council Member District No. 7 (via Skype videoconferencing); Ms. Nicole Scott Ewing, County Attorney; and Ms. Catherine Windham, Interim Clerk to Council.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the electronic and print media were duly notified.

Chairman Daniel Davis called the meeting to order and stated there were eight Public Hearings being held to solicit public comment, written or oral.

There were no written comments on the bills for Public Hearing.

Bill No. 12-04, an **ordinance** to modify the official Zoning and Development Standards Map of Berkeley County, South Carolina, Re: **Berenyi Civil Engineering, LLC, for Dolphin Properties, LLC**, located at 414 Jessen Lane, Charleston, TMS #267-00-00-074, (2.88 ± acres), from **HI, Heavy Industrial District, to LI, Light Industrial District (± 2.26 acres), and GC, General Commercial District (± 0.59)**. Council District 8

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any public comments. There being none, the Public Hearing was declared ended at 6:39 p.m.

Bill No. 12-08, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 for the **Devon Forest Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Devon Forest Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any public comments. There being none, the Public Hearing was declared ended at 6:39 p.m.

Bill No. 12-09, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 for the **Pimlico Special Tax District Operational Budget**; and to provide

for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Pimlico Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any public comments. There being none, the Public Hearing was declared ended at 6:40 p.m.

Bill No. 12-10, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 for the **Sangaree Special Tax District Operational Budget**; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Sangaree Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any public comments.

Mr. Toney: My name is Thomas B. Toney. I live at 107 Ashwood Drive in the Sangaree Special Tax District. My comments are about Bill 12-10 on your agenda – the new fiscal year budget for Sangaree Special Tax District. Actually, I have no criticism with that budget. It's a done deal, and it probably will suffice satisfactorily for everybody concerned for the coming year. I look forward to bring up another point. My main point is that it's time for the Sangaree Special Tax District to get out of the lawn mowing and landscaping business in Sangaree. The County owns about 41 parcels of drainage ditch areas in Sangaree, and today, the Special Tax District spends more than \$700,000 per year to cut the grass and perform other landscape services in those so-called green areas. That figure includes a payroll of \$545,000.00 for a full time landscape work crew and thousands of dollars for operation, repair and replacement of a small fleet of trucks and landscape equipment. I believe the Sangaree Tax District could save more than \$300,000.00 per year by hiring a private, commercial contractor, on the basis of competitive bidding, to provide all of the labor and equipment, and take over all of Sangaree's landscaping work. To support that opinion, I submit the fact that the Town of Mount Pleasant, within the past two years according to a city official, did exactly that. Mount Pleasant saved more than \$250,000.00 per year by shutting down its own operation and hiring a private contractor at a fixed contract price to handle all the landscape work in Mount Pleasant. Sangaree could and should do the same thing. My second point is that privatizing would free up the present tax district building and land at 347 Sangaree Parkway to be used by Sangaree residents, instead of being a headquarters site for the present Sangaree landscape work crew. Under conversion to a privatized, commercially contracted landscaping service, the County could get rid of all the landscape equipment by selling it to the public or by transferring it to other County departments. Let's face the truth. The Sangaree building and grounds on Sangaree Parkway is a community eyesore that drags down property values in Sangaree and stigmatizes the neighborhood. I've passed out some photos to illustrate that fact. Realtor customers who look to buy or rent a house in Sangaree are not favorably impressed by the yard full of trucks, tractors, lawnmowers and miscellaneous equipment on the grounds enclosed by a six-foot, prison-type, steel fence, not to mention the usual pile of household appliances and junk scattered around that building. I have photos here to illustrate that. Instead, the building and the yard around it, at a very reasonable cost, could be remodeled into a community center building that could be used by the residents of Sangaree themselves, a place that residents in Sangaree could be proud of – a community building for all the people – a meeting place that would project a positive image of

Sangaree and uplift property values. I respectfully urge County Council during the coming year to at least order a professional study of this idea and at least get some bids from commercial contractors to determine the actual amount of taxpayer money that can be saved by privatizing the landscape work in Sangaree. Thank you very much for your patience and attention.”

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any further comments. There being none, this Public Hearing was declared ended at 6:45 p.m.

Bill No. 12-11, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 for the **Tall Pines Special Tax District Operational Budget**; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Tall Pines Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any public comments. There being none, the Public Hearing was declared ended at 6:40 p.m.

Bill No. 12-12, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 for the operational budget of the **Berkeley County Special Fire Tax District** within the unincorporated portions of Berkeley County; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Special Fire Tax District during the fiscal year.

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any public comments. There being none, the Public Hearing was declared ended at 6:46 p.m.

Bill No. 12-13, an **ordinance** providing appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 for **Berkeley County**; to provide for levy of taxes on all taxable property in Berkeley County for all County purposes; to provide for the expenditures of said taxes and other revenues coming into the County for the fiscal year; and to amend the Code of Ordinances, Berkeley County, South Carolina, setting rates, charges and penalties for water and sewer and solid waste service by **Berkeley County Water and Sanitation**.

Mr. Metts: “Good evening, Council. I’m Truman Metts; I live at 512 Division Street, Moncks Corner, South Carolina. I’m here tonight to discuss the Third Reading on the budget. Had the May 22nd 2012 Budget Workshop not been so irresponsibly developed and conducted, perhaps those Councilmen and citizens in attendance would or could have received answers to questions about the Stormwater Management Program’s new increased funding requirements. Isn’t it productive, transparent and totally responsible to the citizens of Berkeley County that only a few questions are asked and partially responded to during the Second and Third Readings. I can only answer by saying our leadership and some Council Members are POWs, and ladies and gentlemen, that doesn’t mean prisoners of war, it means pieces of work. Being as we now all know the new permit won’t be issued until 2013 at the earliest, why does the program need all this increased funding, when the requirements of the existing permit have been met, according to the annual report submitted last January of 2011. Being as we now all know, many of the requirements of the existing permit consist of activities historically performed by various departments of Berkeley County Government, and these activities and their costs have been

transferred to the new Stormwater Management Program. Why have not the budgets of the departments formerly responsible for these activities been reduced? Being as we now all know, if this budget item is approved, a new Stormwater Management Fee will soon follow. Why are not the Councilmen from District 6, 7 and 8 concerned that their constituents will be carrying the majority of the financial burden for this program? I would sincerely appreciate it if at least one Member of Council will get the answers to these questions before the final vote is taken tonight. Please don't take Congress Woman Nancy Pelosi's approach, and approve this budget tonight, and Council and the citizens figure out later the details of their budget. Thank you very much."

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any further comments. There being none, this Public Hearing was declared ended at 6:49 p.m.

Bill No. 12-14, an **ordinance** to amend Ordinance No. 11-06-17, adopted June 27, 2011, to provide for **supplemental appropriations** and allocations thereof within the 2011-2012 Budget for Berkeley County; and other matters relating thereto.

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any public comments. There being none, the Public Hearing was declared ended at 6:50 p.m.

S/Catherine Windham
Interim Clerk to Council

July 23, 2012
Date Approved

**BERKELEY COUNTY COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**

BERKELEY COUNTY COUNCIL will hold Public Hearings on **Monday, June 25, 2012**, at **6:04** p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard following other Public Hearings, and immediately following any Committee meetings in the Assembly Room, Berkeley County Administration Building, 1003 Highway 52, Moncks Corner, SC, to receive public comment, written or oral.

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Bill No. 12-04**, an **ordinance** to modify the official Zoning and Development Standards Map of Berkeley County, South Carolina, Re: **Berenyi Civil Engineering, LLC, for Dolphin Properties, LLC**, located at 414 Jessen Lane, Charleston, **TMS #267-00-00-074**, (2.88 ± acres), from **HI, Heavy Industrial District**, to **LI, Light Industrial District** (± 2.26 acres), and **GC, General Commercial District** (± 0.59 acre). Council District 8

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

2. **Bill No. 12-08**, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013** for the **Devon Forest Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Devon Forest Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

3. **Bill No. 12-09**, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013** for the **Pimlico Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Pimlico Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

4. **Bill No. 12-10**, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013** for the **Sangaree Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Sangaree Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

5. **Bill No. 12-11**, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013** for the **Tall Pines Special Tax District** operational budget; and to

provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Tall Pines Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

6. **Bill No. 12-12**, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013** for the operational budget of the **Berkeley County Special Fire Tax District** within the unincorporated portions of Berkeley County; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Special Fire Tax District during the fiscal year.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

7. **Bill No. 12-13**, an **ordinance** providing appropriations for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013** for **Berkeley County**; to provide for levy of taxes on all taxable property in Berkeley County for all County purposes; to provide for the expenditures of said taxes and other revenues coming into the County for the fiscal year; and to amend the Code of Ordinances, Berkeley County, South Carolina, setting rates, charges and penalties for water and sewer and solid waste service by **Berkeley County Water and Sanitation**.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

8. **Bill No. 12-14**, an **ordinance** to **amend Ordinance No. 11-06-17**, adopted June 27, 2011 to provide for **supplemental appropriations** and allocations thereof within the 2011-2012 budget for Berkeley County; and other matters relating thereto.

June 20, 2012
S/Catherine R. Windham
Interim Clerk to County Council